Minneapolis–St. Paul MSA

By Kevin Alaspa

September Unemployment Rate Declines

The unemployment rate in the Twin Cities metropolitan area declined from 3.3 percent in August to 3.2 percent in September, which was in line with the 0.2 percent decline in the state's unemployment rate between these two months. Ordinarily, the unemployment rate is lowest in either September or October before rising in subsequent months.

Wage And Salary Employment Changes Slightly

Total wage and salary employment rose by 5,400, and all gains took place in nonmanufacturing industries. Manufacturing employment decreased by about 1,800, almost evenly divided between the durable and nondurable sectors. Transportation, communications and public utilities grew by 1,800, while finance, insurance and real estate declined by 700, largely due to modest cutbacks among banks and savings and loan associations. Wholesale trade jobs declined slightly while retail trade employment remained steady. Construction jobs declined by about 300, and further seasonal declines are expected in future months. Employment increased in educational services, coinciding with the beginning of the school year. Government employment rose by 5,300 as local school districts added workers.

In the next few months, employment in the Twin Cities will be influenced somewhat by seasonal factors. Construction and other outdoor activity will continue to wind down, and retailers will be gearing up for the holiday season. Employment in September was 3.2 percent higher than in September, 1987, and the steady job growth that has taken place over the past year has reflected the strong economic conditions prevailing in the metropolitan area.

Job creation continues primarily among smaller firms, especially those that manufacture specialized products. The service sector, notably personal and business services, continues to add workers. The diversity of industries in the metropolitan area, coupled with recently strengthened export markets, has resulted in relatively prosperous business conditions for many local firms. This in turn has helped employment increase steadily in the metropolitan area.

Labor Force Estimates

AREA	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT		
	Sept 1988	Aug 1988	Sept 1987	Sept 1988	Aug 1988	Sept 1987	Sept 1988	Aug 1988	Sept 1987
Mpls-St.Paul MSA	1,336,427	1,352,329	1,294,864	43,858	45,757	51,674	3.2	3.3	3.8
REGION 11	1,254,686	1,269,939	1,215,997	41,277	42,970	48,649	3.2	3.3	3.8
Anoka	125,717	127,245	121,840	4,452	4,365	4,866	3.4	3.3	3.8
Carver	23,058	23,338	22,347	650	642	737	2.7	2.7	3.2
Dakota	132,223	133,830	128,145	4,446	4,498	5,430	3.3	3.3	4.1
Hennepin	603,648	610,987	585,034	20,140	21,175	23,348	3.2	3.3	3.8
Ramsey	272,825	276,142	264,413	8,634	9,193	10,783	3.1	3.2	3.9
Scott	27,125	27,455	26,289	981	996	1,166	3.5	3.5	4.2
Washington	70,090	70,942	67,929	1,974	2,101	2,319	2.7	2.9	3.3
Chisago	13,745	13,912	13,321	528	558	655	3.7	3.9	4.7
Isanti	11,854	11,998	11,488	385	381	417	3.1	3.1	3.5
Wright	31,382	31,765	30,415	1,060	1,109	1,180	3.3	3.4	3.7
St. Croix, WI	24,760	24,715	23,643	608	739	773	2.4	2.9	3.2
Bloomington	56,894	57,586	55,140	1,823	2,003	2,079	3.1	3.4	3.6
Minneapolis	210,471	213,030	203,981	8,069	8,519	9,526	3.7	3.8	4.5
St. Paul	144,838	146,599	140,373	5,273	5,713	6,904	3.5	3.8	4.7

Mpls.–St. Paul Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment, Hours & Earnings

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT1/ (thousands)			PERCENT CHANGE FROM		PRODUCTION WORKERS' HOURS & EARNINGS2/					
						Average Weekly Earnings		Av. Hourly Earnings		Average Weekly Hrs.	
	Sept. 1988	Aug. 1988	Sept. 1987	Aug. 1988	Sept. 1987	Sept. 1988	Sept. 1987	Sept. 1988	Sept. 1987	Sept. 1988	Sept. 1987
Total Nonagricultural	1323.4	1318.0	1299.5	0.4	2.0						
Manufacturing	263.1	264.9	257.6	-0.7	2.1	470.20	459.61	11.33	11.21	41.5	41.0
Durable Goods	164.5	165.3	160.1	-0.5	2.7	481.66	479.26	11.36	11.33	42.4	42.3
Lumber and Furniture	10.3	10.6	10.0	-2.6	2.6	563.60	552.83	12.78	12.15	44.1	45.5
Stone, Clay and Glass	3.7	3.8	3.4	-2.4	9.9	485.52	468.84	11.90	11.11	40.8	42.2
Primary Metals	5.2	5.1	4.8	1.0	9.0	432.32	407.66	9.65	9.35	44.8	43.6
Fabricated Metals	25.8	26.1	26.1	-1.1	-1.2	536.74	543.42	12.81	12.55	41.9	43.3
Nonelectrical Machinery	64.5	64.7	62.8	-0.3	2.6	487.60	492.46	11.50	11.56	42.4	42.6
Office and Computing	31.3	31.6	31.8	-0.8	-1.6	485.21	524.36	11.18	11.81	43.4	44.4
Electrical Machinery	16.4	16.5	16.2	-0.6	1.4	367.11	373.46	9.02	9.29	40.7	40.2
Transportation Equipment	5.9	5.9	5.6	1.2	5.6	721.47	674.88	15.65	14.80	46.1	45.6
Scientific Instruments	28.5	29.3	28.0	-0.1	4.7	438.69	419.49	10.47	10.54	41.9	39.8
Misc. Manufacturing	3.4	3.4	3.3	1.3	4.8	475.28	414.12	10.40	10.20	45.7	40.6
Nondurable Goods	98.6	99.6	97.5	-1.0	1.1	452.33	432.77	11.28	11.04	40.1	39.2
Food and Kindred	18.4	18.9	19.0	-2.6	-2.9	513.98	441.38	11.55	10.61	44.5	41.6
Textiles and Apparel	7.7	7.3	7.0	8.5	8.3	275.18	252.02	7.28	7.18	37.8	35.1
Paper and Allied	25.0	25.3	25.3	-1.3	-1.0	485.96	459.60	11.94	11.49	40.7	40.0
Printing and Publishing	32.7	32.7	31.8	-0.2	2.8	415.38	408.85	10.96	11.08	37.9	36.9
Chemicals and Petroleum	9.4	9.6	9.3	-1.7	1.7	549.20	541.49	13.73	13.37	40.0	40.5
Rubber, Plastic & Leather	10.9	10.7	10.2	1.6	6.6	375.77	393.03	9.66	9.90	38.9	39.7
Nonmanufacturing	1060.3	1053.1	1041.9	0.7	2.0						
Mining	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.8	311.93	208.78	9.84	8.03	31.7	26.0
Construction	58.9	58.2	59.5	0.5	0.6	643.13	592.03	17.15	16.63	37.5	35.6
Transp., Comm., Pub. Util.	72.2	70.2	71.1	2.6	4.4						
Transportation	49.1	47.3	48.7	3.8	0.9						
Trucking & Warehousing	15.9	15.9	16.6	0.5	-4.2	398.34	391.90	13.19	13.02	30.2	30.1
Comm. & Public Util.	25.1	22.9	22.4	9.3	12.0	609.84	578.24	15.40	14.42	39.6	40.1
Trade	329.4	328.7	324.6	0.1	0.6	259.88	257.00	8.75	8.51	29.7	30.2
Wholesale	87.1	87.5	84.2	-0.5	3.4	453.18	456.95	11.62	11.51	39.0	39.7
Retail	239.3	239.2	240.4	0.1	-0.4	199.12	196.56	7.43	7.20	26.8	27.3
Building Materials	10.8	11.0	10.4	-1.9	3.5	375.35	352.45	10.09	9.50	37.2	37.1
General Merchandise	39.5	38.9	38.5	1.0	2.1	167.33	174.43	6.64	6.32	25.2	27.6
Food Stores	28.0	27.8	28.1	0.6	-0.3	253.16	241.96	8.76	8.46	28.9	28.6
Automotive	23.6	24.0	23.5	-0.7	1.4	366.73	396.15	10.02	10.21	36.6	38.8
Apparel	12.8	12.8	13.1	0.2	-2.4	114.70	125.53	5.36	5.53	21.4	22.7
Home Furnishings	11.6	11.7	11.3	0.9	5.0	258.81	229.50	8.57	7.50	30.2	30.6
Eating and Drinking	81.9	82.5	85.2	-0.8	-4.0	124.21	117.08	5.57	5.25	22.3	22.3
Fin., Insur., Real Estate	96.3	97.0	93.9	-0.7	2.6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Finance	41.0	41.4	40.1	-1.0	2.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Insurance	38.4	38.5	37.3	-0.4	2.9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Real Estate	16.9	17.0	16.5	-0.6	2.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Services	338.9	337.5	332.2	0.4	2.0						
Personal Services	18.4	18.3	17.6	0.5	4.2						
Business Services	83.1	82.2	80.5	1.1	3.2						
Repair Services	15.5	15.5	14.5	-0.5	6.8						
Health Services	85.8	85.6	85.1	0.3	0.9						
Hospitals	30.6	30.5	30.9	0.3	-0.9						
Nursing Homes	21.6	21.6	22.2	0.3	-2.8						
Legal Services	11.9	12.0	11.2	-0.6	5.5						
Private Education	15.3	13.9	16.2	10.5	-5.4						
Government	166.1	160.8	162.0	3.3	2.6						
Federal	20.6	20.7	20.0	-0.5	2.8						
State	49.2	48.9	46.5	0.6	5.8						
Education	24.7	24.4	22.9	1.2	8.2						
Local	96.4	91.2	95.4	5.6	0.9						
Education	48.3	41.1	47.6	17.5	1.5						

1/ Totals may not add because of rounding.

2/ Average earnings data are on a "gross" basis and are derived from reports of payroll for full-time and part-time production or non-supervisory workers. The payroll is reported before deductions of any kind. Bonuses, retroactive pay, tips, payment in kind, and "fringe benefits" are excluded.

Central and Northwest Minnesota

Area	Employment			Unemployment			Unemp Rate		
	Sept 1988	Aug 1988	Sept 1987	Sept 1988	Aug 1988	Sept 1987	Sept 1988	Aug 1988	Sept 1987
St. Cloud MSA	91,041	89,593	85,606	3,718	3,664	4,017	3.9	3.9	4.5
REGION 1	41,559	40,070	39,987	2,333	2,672	2,226	5.3	6.3	5.3
Kittson	2,473	2,382	2,406	181	211	147	6.8	8.1	5.8
Marshall	4,725	4,493	4,448	404	482	407	7.9	9.7	8.4
Norman	3,532	3,449	3,460	177	195	168	4.8	5.4	4.6
Pennington	6,521	6,452	6,127	288	329	320	4.2	4.9	5.0
Polk	14,225	13,288	14,178	858	1,031	787	5.7	7.2	5.3
Red Lake	1,499	1,385	1,532	167	194	190	10.0	12.3	11.0
Roseau	8,584	8,621	7,836	258	230	207	2.9	2.6	2.6
REGION 2	31,476	30,103	28,910	1,415	1,593	1,672	4.3	5.0	5.5
Beltrami	16,124	15,220	14,938	631	669	789	3.8	4.2	5.0
Clearwater	3,369	3,002	3,292	291	333	310	8.0	10.0	8.6
Hubbard	7,635	7,714	6,838	316	382	362	4.0	4.7	5.0
Lake of Woods	2,034	2,026	1,626	63	65	86	3.0	3.1	5.0
Mahnomen	2,314	2,141	2,216	114	144	125	4.7	6.3	5.3
REGION 4	92,527	93,811	91,180	3,170	3,916	3,839	3.3	4.0	4.0
Becker	13,189	13,330	13,570	570	667	705	4.1	4.8	4.9
Clay	24,840	24,806	24,071	626	864	772	2.5	3.4	3.1
Douglas	13,957	14,068	14,146	464	528	636	3.2	3.6	4.3
Grant	2,745	2,723	2,666	121	135	122	4.2	4.7	4.4
Otter Tail	22,984	24,420	22,507	946	1,385	1,068	4.0	4.6	4.5
Pope	4,641	4,540	4,267	177	195	198	3.7	4.1	4.4
Stevens	4,781	4,672	4,795	103	121	147	2.1	2.5	3.0
Traverse	2,184	2,192	1,991	56	63	65	2.5	2.8	3.2
Wilkin	3,206	3,060	3,167	107	158	126	3.2	4.9	3.8
REGION 5	58,765	58,862	54,811	3,078	3,344	3,296	5.0	5.4	5.7
Cass	8,563	8,755	7,917	535	595	622	5.9	6.4	7.3
Crow Wing	21,873	21,911	20,201	967	995	1,037	4.2	4.3	4.9
Morrison	13,611	13,561	12,627	835	770	820	5.8	5.4	6.1
Todd	9,933	9,929	9,602	535	629	560	5.1	6.0	5.5
Wadena	4,785	4,706	4,464	206	355	257	4.1	7.0	5.4
REGION 6E	55,521	54,827	51,386	2,096	2,100	2,364	3.6	3.7	4.4
Kandiyohi	19,341	19,041	17,990	644	615	717	3.2	3.1	3.8
McLeod	18,629	18,824	16,843	605	545	678	3.1	2.8	3.9
Meeker	8,309	8,212	7,665	397	469	494	4.6	5.4	6.1
Renville	9,242	8,750	8,888	450	471	475	4.6	5.1	5.1
REGION 7E	50,281	49,910	47,832	2,193	2,381	2,431	4.2	4.6	4.8
Chisago	13,745	13,912	13,321	528	558	655	3.7	3.9	4.7
Isanti	11,854	11,998	11,488	385	381	417	3.1	3.1	3.5
Kanabec	5,633	5,614	5,586	330	377	343	5.5	6.3	5.8
Mille Lacs	9,478	9,226	8,250	408	454	435	4.1	4.7	5.0
Pine	9,571	9,160	9,187	542	611	581	5.4	6.3	5.9
REGION 7W	122,423	121,358	116,021	4,778	4,773	5,197	3.8	3.8	4.3
Benton	14,296	14,069	13,443	658	624	698	4.4	4.2	4.9
Sherburne	17,161	16,888	16,137	966	887	850	5.3	5.0	5.0
Stearns	59,584	58,636	56,026	2,094	2,153	2,469	3.4	3.5	4.2
Wright	31,382	31,765	30415	1,060	1,109	1180	3.3	3.4	3.7

ST. CLOUD MSA NONFARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT

Industry	Employment			Percent Change From	
	Sept. 1988	Aug. 1988	Sept. 1987	Month Ago	Year Ago
Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary	72,432	69,863	66,119	3.7	9.5
Total Manufacturing	12,705	12,674	11,796	0.2	7.7
Durable Goods	7,137	7,037	6,639	1.4	7.5
Nondurable Goods	5,568	5,637	5,157	-1.2	8.0
Total Nonmanufacturing	59,727	57,189	57,324	4.4	4.2
Construction & Mining	4,245	4,118	4,460	3.1	-4.8
Trans., Comm., & Pub. Util.	3,703	3,610	3,420	2.6	8.3
Total Trade	22,718	22,586	20,671	1.0	9.9
Wholesale Trade	3,666	3,670	3,447	-0.1	6.4
Retail Trade	19,052	18,916	17,424	1.3	9.3
Finan., Insur., & Real Estate	2,455	2,433	2,363	0.9	3.9
Total Services	14,968	14,332	14,652	4.4	2.1
Health Services	5,139	5,163	5,062	-0.5	1.5
Other Services	9,819	9,169	9,600	7.1	2.3
Government	11,648	10,310	11,358	14.1	2.6

By Ron Daws

Employment Little Changed Over The Month While Unemployment Droped

Unemployment rates among most Central and Northwest counties have dropped since August while employment levels generally edged up. Obviously, the economy remains strong as the fourth quarter of 1988 approaches.

The St. Cloud MSA's unemployment rate has remained essentially unchanged at 3.9 percent since July. Normally, the rate edges downward during the summer. Employment rose in September to 91,041, 1,448 more jobs than during August, a typical gain for this time of year. Compared to September of 1987, jobs were up by 5,435, a 6.4 percent increase.

There were more nonfarm payroll workers in the St. Cloud MSA during September than during any previous month. Increases over September last year, however, are no longer as high as during January and February (4,377 and 4,916), but still there were over 3,300 more salaried workers (4.8%) than a year ago. Since August, nonfarm payroll jobs were seasonally up by 2,569 (3.7%).

The fastest growing industries over the year were retail trade--up by 9.3 percent (1,628 jobs), transportation, communications and public utilities--up 8.3 percent, manufacturing--up 7.7 percent, and wholesale trade--up 6.4 percent. Only construction and mining lost employment, dropping by 8.9 percent (415 jobs). More than 63 percent of the total gain in nonfarm payroll was generated by the huge and fast moving retail trade industry.

Compared with August, by far the best employment gainer was government, swelling by 14.1 percent, or 1,438 jobs. But it was just normal gearing up for the school year. Except for the 7.1 percent gain in nonmedical service jobs over the month, there were few employment changes among the remaining industries.

Northeast Minnesota

By Ron Daws

Unemployment Drops While Employment Rises

Last month it looked as though unemployment might be heading up, but September's rates were all down. Duluth's rate subsided to 5.3 percent. Except for September 1985's 4.4 percent, it was the lowest September rate during the 1980s. A year ago the rate was 5.8 percent.

Although employment dropped by 332 over the month, it increased by 1,136 jobs [up 3.3%] over the year. Duluth has never had more jobs during September since the 1981-82 recession.

Duluth's nonfarm payroll employment has held steady at just over 44,000 for the past three months and a bit over last year's July, August, and September levels. Other than during 1985, employment hasn't been higher during September since before the 1981-82 recession.

Although total nonfarm payroll employment didn't change over the month and year, there were differences among major industries. Compared to last September, durable goods manufacturing employment dropped 8.7 percent. Construction employment, which has been down all of 1988 compared with 1987, remained 28 percent lower than it was during September last year. Wholesale trade, transportation, communications and public utilities employment fell slightly.

Significant gains in health services, up 331 jobs or 4.4 percent, and in government negated these over-the-year losses. Government gained only 2.1 percent more workers, but because of its size, that meant 204 jobs.

Compared with August, there were few employment shifts of any note. Durable goods manufacturing dropped by 3.0 percent, and wholesale trade jobs increased by 4.2 percent. In October, government should rise moderately when the college fall term begins.

Labor Force Estimates

AREA	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT		
	Sept 1988	Aug 1988	Sept 1987	Sept 1988	Aug 1988	Sept 1987	Sept 1988	Aug 1988	Sept 1987
REGION 3	131,437	130,903	126,498	7,385	7,884	10,175	5.3	5.7	7.4
Aitkin	4,876	4,774	5,081	301	365	405	5.8	7.1	7.4
Carlton	11,848	11,564	11,533	687	716	808	5.5	5.8	6.5
Cook	3,067	3,198	2,766	91	105	111	2.9	3.2	3.9
Itasca	16,599	15,987	15,728	1,031	1,157	1,339	5.8	6.7	7.8
Koochiching	7,601	7,351	7,018	405	384	452	5.1	5.0	6.1
Lake	3,749	3,632	3,307	326	354	527	8.0	8.9	13.7
St. Louis	83,697	84,397	81,065	4,544	4,803	6,533	5.1	5.4	7.5
City of Duluth	36,127	36,429	34,991	2,008	2,109	2,164	5.3	5.5	5.8
Balance St. Louis	47,570	47,968	46,074	2,536	2,694	4,369	5.1	5.3	8.7

DULUTH AND DULUTH-SUPERIOR MSA NONFARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT DULUTH			PERCENT CHANGE		EMPLOYMENT DULUTH-SUPERIOR			PERCENT CHANGE	
	Sept 1988	Aug. 1988	Sept. 1987	MO. AGO	YR. AGO	Sept. 1988	Aug. 1988	Sept. 1987	MO. AGO	YR. AGO
Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary	44,035	44,039	44,044	0.0	0.0	90,659	89,760	90,653	1.0	0.0
Total Manufacturing	3,785	3,804	3,882	-0.6	-2.5	7,788	7,910	7,703	-1.5	1.1
Durable Goods	1,484	1,511	1,606	-3.0	-8.7	4,160	4,245	4,103	-2.0	1.4
Nondurable Goods	2,319	2,293	2,276	1.0	1.9	3,628	3,665	3,600	-1.0	0.8
Total Nonmanufacturing	40,250	40,232	40,162	0.0	0.2	82,871	81,850	82,950	1.2	-0.1
Construction	1,603	1,590	2,227	0.8	-28.0	4,074	4,027	5,567	1.2	-26.8
Transp., Com., Pub. Util.	2,843	2,853	2,928	-0.4	-2.9	2,358	2,377	2,341	-0.8	0.7
Total Trade	11,319	11,197	11,275	1.1	0.4	21,968	22,071	22,232	-0.5	-1.2
Wholesale Trade	1,665	1,598	1,690	4.2	-1.5	3,551	3,531	3,565	0.6	-0.4
Retail Trade	9,654	9,599	9,585	0.6	0.7	18,417	18,540	18,667	-0.7	-1.3
Finan., Insur., Real Est.	1,816	1,818	1,835	-0.2	1.1	3,264	3,280	3,144	-0.5	3.8
Services, Mining, & Misc.	12,584	12,531	12,036	0.3	4.4	26,227	26,553	25,094	-1.2	4.5
Health Services	5,802	5,561	5,271	0.7	6.3	9,104	9,043	8,523	0.7	6.8
Other Services	5,905	5,957	5,874	-0.9	0.5	10,437	10,864	10,284	-3.9	1.5
Government	10,085	10,252	9,861	-1.3	2.1	21,174	19,720	21,012	7.4	0.8

Southern Minnesota

By Sue Borgfelt

Labor Force Estimates

AREA	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMP RATE		
	Sept 1988	Aug 1988	Sept 1987	Sept 1988	Aug 1988	Sept 1987	Sept 1988	Aug 1988	Sept 1987
REGION 6W	23,657	23,672	23,054	785	849	982	3.2	3.5	4.1
Big Stone	2,919	2,946	2,776	110	117	151	3.6	3.8	5.2
Chippewa	6,384	6,328	6,291	233	245	251	3.5	3.7	3.8
Lac Qui Parle	4,122	4,051	3,953	103	124	103	2.4	3.0	2.5
Swift	4,659	4,645	4,494	183	190	234	3.8	3.9	4.9
Yellow Medicine	5,573	5,702	5,540	156	172	243	2.7	2.9	4.2
REGION 8	59,382	58,817	55,930	2,090	2,006	2,343	3.4	3.3	4.0
Cottonwood	5,917	5,800	5,685	311	353	346	5.0	5.7	5.7
Jackson	4,969	4,929	4,868	249	304	482	4.8	5.8	9.0
Lincoln	3,206	3,086	3,083	107	66	106	3.2	2.1	3.3
Lyon	12,051	12,183	11,576	431	354	387	3.5	2.8	3.2
Murray	4,683	4,664	4,320	190	184	192	3.9	3.8	4.3
Nobles	10,746	10,693	9,640	312	299	313	2.8	2.7	3.1
Pipestone	5,688	5,512	5,019	134	125	117	2.3	2.2	2.3
Redwood	7,633	7,485	7,274	231	232	263	2.9	3.0	3.5
Rock	4,489	4,465	4,465	125	89	137	2.7	2.0	3.0
REGION 9	108,570	108,609	106,014	3,342	3,512	4,619	3.0	3.1	4.2
Blue Earth	27,643	27,307	26,557	627	777	839	2.2	2.8	3.1
Brown	13,655	13,632	13,283	373	467	472	2.7	3.3	3.4
Faribault	8,050	8,462	8,395	337	248	315	4.0	2.8	3.6
Le Sueur	11,574	11,850	11,176	564	520	765	4.6	4.2	6.4
Martin	11,032	10,986	11,903	477	533	873	4.1	4.6	6.8
Nicollet	14,172	14,000	13,615	351	333	461	2.4	2.3	3.3
Sibley	6,715	6,742	6,412	233	234	324	3.4	3.4	4.8
Waseca	9,841	9,800	9,315	230	264	413	2.3	2.6	4.2
Watonwan	5,888	5,830	5,358	150	136	157	2.5	2.3	2.8
REGION 10	219,338	217,576	208,821	6,358	6,839	7,633	2.8	3.0	3.5
Dodge	8,015	7,966	7,558	291	271	373	3.5	3.3	4.7
Fillmore	9,442	9,186	9,411	355	430	416	3.6	4.5	4.2
Freeborn	17,274	16,899	16,281	506	527	583	2.8	3.0	3.5
Goodhue	20,269	20,547	19,774	589	644	837	2.8	3.0	4.1
Houston	9,220	8,999	8,771	244	322	290	2.6	3.5	3.2
Mower	16,404	15,942	16,305	485	533	705	2.9	3.2	4.1
Olmsted	58,714	59,247	55,693	1,434	1,410	1,793	2.4	2.3	3.1
Rice	27,588	27,279	25,550	867	963	968	3.0	3.4	3.7
Steele	15,977	16,181	15,767	556	551	561	3.4	3.3	3.4
Wabasha	9,268	9,422	8,820	283	310	338	3.0	3.2	3.7
Winona	27,167	25,908	24,891	748	878	769	2.7	3.3	3.0
Rochester City	36,306	36,636	34,438	1,078	1,029	1,212	2.9	2.7	3.4

Unemployment and Employment Changes Differ by Region

Since last month, unemployment rose in Region 8, and fell in every other region. Employment increased in Regions 8 and 10 and dropped in Regions 6W and 9. Employment rose and unemployment dropped in every region over the year.

In the Rochester MSA, nonfarm employment rose 3.8 percent over the year. All industries except two employed more people this year than during last September. With low unemployment, and, therefore, relatively more available jobs, there is a shortage of people willing to work seasonal jobs. That was one reason nondurable goods manufacturing employment dropped over the year. Industries who employ seasonal holiday workers may soon be short of workers. Construction was the other industry with fewer workers than last September--a surprise, since all this year, construction employment had been higher than during last year. Last year, however, construction employment rose 1.2 percent between August and September, contrary to the seasonal decrease which usually occurs. Nevertheless, this year's 5.3 percent over-the-month job drop was exceptional. Time will tell whether it signifies a turning point.

According to the Rochester MSA's nonfarm employment estimate, jobs increased by 546 over the month. This differs from the Olmsted County (same as Rochester MSA) labor force estimate of a 533 decrease. The two estimates are constructed differently. Random sampling error in the Current Population Survey (to which labor force data is adjusted) could account for much of the difference. Government jobs rose because of the new school year, and offset the declines most other industries experienced to net the overall 546 gain. Nondurable goods producers' 5.0 percent job decline was either steeper or earlier than usual. This larger-than-usual decline in nondurable manufacturing employment was also observed statewide.

ROCHESTER MSA NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT			PERCENT CHANGE FROM	
	September 1988	August 1988	September 1987	Month Ago	Year Ago
Total Nonagricultural Wage & Salary	59,982	59,436	57,787	0.9	3.8
Total Manufacturing	11,632	11,738	10,850	-0.9	7.2
Durable Goods	9,636	9,636	8,851	0.0	8.9
Nondurable Goods	1,996	2,102	1,999	-5.0	-0.2
Total Nonmanufacturing	48,350	47,698	46,937	1.4	3.0
Construction & Mining	2,111	2,228	2,174	-5.3	-2.9
Transp., Comm., & Public Util.	1,726	1,735	1,684	-0.5	2.5
Total Trade	11,807	11,738	11,496	0.6	2.7
Wholesale Trade	1,276	1,291	1,201	-1.2	6.2
Retail Trade	10,531	10,447	10,295	0.8	2.3
Finan., Insur., & Real Estate	1,675	1,657	1,552	1.1	7.9
Total Services	25,027	25,166	24,130	-0.6	3.7
Health Services	17,697	17,790	16,930	-0.5	4.5
Other Services	7,330	7,376	7,200	-0.6	1.8
Government	6,004	5,174	5,901	16.0	1.7

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Selected Minnesota Program Statistics

Distribution of Insured Unemployed by Industry and Occupation, September 1988

Industry Attachment	Number	Percent of Total	Percent */ Long-Term Unemployed	Women as Percent of Total
TOTAL, ALL INDUSTRIES	20,439	100.0	23.2	40.6
Ag., For., Fish.	196	1.0	19.2	38.5
Mining	44	0.2	8.8	23.5
Construction	2,847	13.9	13.8	5.9
Manufacturing	5,300	25.9	21.5	36.9
Public Utilities	955	4.7	22.1	26.4
Wholesale Trade	1,841	9.0	27.3	35.8
Retail Trade	2,467	12.1	27.8	48.1
Fin., Ins., Re. Est.	1,088	5.3	33.5	63.3
Services	4,518	22.1	27.2	61.6
Public Admin.	363	1.8	21.5	56.4
Info. Not Available	820	4.0	9.5	38.9
Occupational Attachment				
TOTAL, ALL OCCUPATIONS	20,439	100.0	23.2	40.6
Prof., Tech., Mgr.	5,310	26.0	28.5	44.0
Clerical	3,234	15.8	28.9	83.0
Sales	1,133	5.5	26.1	35.3
Services	1,427	7.0	26.7	56.0
Farm, For., Fish.	158	0.8	18.5	27.2
Processing	714	3.5	15.7	43.7
Machine Trades	1,227	6.0	18.9	18.3
Benchwork	1,554	7.6	21.4	56.3
Structural Work	3,209	15.7	13.9	2.6
Misc., and INA	2,473	12.1	18.9	19.9

Distribution of Insured Unemployed, by Age and Sex, September 1988

Age Groups	Number	Percent Distribution		
		Men of Totals	Men of Men	Women of Women
TOTALS	20,439	59.5	100.0	100.0
Under 45	15,001	59.9	73.9	72.6
Under25	1,987	59.6	9.8	9.7
25-34	7,395	60.2	36.6	35.5
35-44	5,619	59.6	27.5	27.4
45 and over	5,438	58.3	26.1	27.4
45-54	3,247	57.8	15.5	16.5
55 and over	2,191	59.1	10.6	10.9

Experienced Supply/Job Openings Demand **/

Occupational Attachment	Applicants (Supply) Sept. 1988	Job Openings (Demand) Sept. 1988	Supply/Demand Ratio Sept. 1988	Sept. 1988
TOTAL, ALL OCCUPATIONS	67,261	29,911	2.2	3.0
Prof., Tech., Mgr.	12,513	2,221	5.6	7.9
Clerical	13,503	4,275	3.2	4.0
Sales	4,233	3,805	1.1	1.8
Services	7,567	9,512	0.8	1.5
Farm, For., Fish.	1,712	570	3.0	7.7
Processing	1,378	2,086	0.7	1.4
Machine Trades	3,927	936	4.2	5.2
Benchwork	4,452	1,743	2.6	1.02
Structural Work	8,537	1,510	5.7	8.1
Misc., and INA	9,439	3,253	2.9	3.5

*/ Long-term unemployed refers to unemployment insurance claimants whose current spell of unemployment has lasted 15 weeks or longer.

**/ Inexperienced and improperly coded job applicants are not included in this table.